



Riverside Neighborhood Partnership

Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2006 – 6:30 pm

City Hall – Mayor's Ceremonial Room

Members Present: Gurumantra Khalsa, Norm Gritton, Jay Dyer, Heather Troxel, Albert Figueroa, Kirk Beck, Kathy Crumley, Susie Doss, Dan Gressman, Nancy Sturmer, Bernice Tank, Jacob Hernandez, John Williams, LaTonya Johnson

Members Excused: Taffi Romero, Wivory Brandle, Steven Kirkpatrick

Members Unexcused:

Guests: Michael Pierpoint, Heather Pierpoint, Paul Chavez, Christina Duran, Donna Windom, Robert Tank, Frank MacDonald

Staff: Eva Yakutis McNiel, Bruni Mercado

1. **Call to Order/Introductions** – 6:45pm
2. **Approval of Minutes, June 5, 2006** – Minutes approved
3. **Concerns from Visiting Neighborhoods**

Norm Gritton expressed concerns about the Hillside neighborhood. He suggested that RNP make another effort to get the neighborhood group in that area motivated. Kathy Crumley agreed. Eva gave brief background of the City's and RNP's previous efforts to help improve the Hillside neighborhood (neighborhood meeting at community center, City-hosted Trash-Bash, and home improvement program)

Manny Leon from the Mayor's Office gave an overview of the Mayor's Night Out (MNO) Program and thanked the RNP members for supporting the program. Norm Gritton encouraged new RNP members to attend MNO. Manny also discussed 311 City's Call Center Reports received by the Mayor's Office. Mayor would like to see more calls from the Airport neighborhood.

4. **Overview of Riverside Neighborhood Partnership (RNP)**

Eva gave presentation on history and purpose of the Riverside Neighborhood Partnership.

5. **Review of 2006 Neighborhood Conference**

Eva spoke about the positive feedback on the overall conference and the keynote speaker Jim Diers, received by attendees at the 2006 Neighborhood Conference. Eva also mentioned that staff was already planning the 2007 Neighborhood Conference with the theme – "Coming Together To Make A Difference". It was suggested that a neighborhood conference subcommittee made up of RNP members be put together to assist in the planning of next year's conference.

6. **Discussion of Election of Officers**

One Chair and two Vice-Chairs should be elected at October meeting for the new RNP year (September thru July)

7. Future Agenda Items

Eva discussed the need to fill vacant seats on RNP Board for Chambers of Commerce, Non-Profit/Faith-Based, and Education representation. She suggested that RNP members submit names to the Board to fill vacant seats in these areas and then submit to Mayor's Nominating & Screening Committee for informational purposes as amended in the RNP by-laws.

Bruni introduced Michael Pierpoint from Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church as a candidate for faith-based representative. Mr. Pierpoint discussed Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church's strategy to bless the community by assisting/providing the residents and City with programs, services, and projects that will improve the quality of life in Riverside.

8. Other Items/Public Comment

Jay Dyer, alternate RNP member, suggested that Area 3 be split. Members of the Board voted to discuss how the area should be split further via a subcommittee made up of the following members: Albert Figueroa, Susie Doss, and Gurumantra Khalsa.

9. Next Meeting: Monday October 2, 2006, Mayor's Ceremonial Room

10. Adjournment

Minutes prepared by Housing & Neighborhoods Office